

Message Text

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44

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 INT-05 EPA-04 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2834

UNCLAS MOSCOW 10762

PASS EPA: BILL BROWN

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: SENV, UR, US

SUBJ: ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT: PROTECTION OF NORTHERN ECOSYSTEMS:
VISIT OF DR. OUTCALT TO YAKUTSK

REF: STATE 178776

1. EMBASSY JULY 30 CONTACTED KAZAKOV OF HYDROMET REGARDING VISA ISSUANCE FOR DR. OUTCALT. KAZAKOV INFORMED SCIOFF THAT, DESPITE AGREEMENT ON HYDROMET SPONSORSHIP OF OUTCALT VISIT CITED IN REFTEL, INVITATION CAME FROM MELNIKOV AND THAT VISA AUTHORIZATION MUST THEREFORE COME FROM ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

2. KHARITONOV OF ACADEMY OF SCIENCES THEREFORE CONTACTED JULY 30 WITH REQUEST THAT OUTCALT VISA AUTHORIZATION BE EXPEDITED. KHARITONOV UNAWARE OF OUTCALT VISIT BUT PROMISED TO LOOK INTO MATTER. HE INFORMED SCIOFF BY TELEPHONE JULY 31 THAT HE HAD SPOKEN WITH MELNIKOV BY TELEPHONE AND HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT MELNIKOV IS NOT EXPECTING DR. OUTCALT AT THIS TIME. KHARITONOV CITED RECENT CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN MELNIKOV AND DILLON, DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, IN WHICH IT WAS REPORTEDLY AGREED THAT
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VISIT OF COMPUTER SPECIALISTS TO YAKUTSK PERMAFROST

INSTITUTE WOULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL A JOINT COOPERATION PROGRAM IN FIELD COULD BE AGREED UPON BY BOTH ACADEMIES. ACADEMY OF SCIENCES THEREFORE AWAITING SUGGESTED OUTLINE OF SUCH PROGRAM FROM NAS AND NOMINATION OF OUTCALT AS US CO-ORDINATOR OF PROGRAM BEFORE EXTENDING INVITATION FOR OUTCALT VISIT TO YAKUTSK.

3. VISA AUTHORIZATION FOR DR. OUTCALT WILL THEREFORE NOT BE FORTHCOMING FROM ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AT THIS TIME.

4. SCIOFF AGAIN CONTACTED HYDROMET JULY 31. KAZAKOV CONFIRMED KHARITONOV'S EXPLANATION OF SITUATION RE OUTCALT VISIT. HE HOWEVER HELD OUT HOPE THAT OUTCALT VISIT MIGHT STILL BE ARRANGED WITHIN 3-4 WEEKS, BEFORE ACADEMIES' AGREEMENT CONCLUDED. KAZAKOV SUGGESTED OUTCALT REQUEST FORMAL INVITATION FOR SUCH VISIT FROM MELNIKOV.
MATLOCK

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